

INFORMATION REPORT

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Central and South China

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1. In April 1951 construction of the Central and South China Air Force Repair Shop was started on the former premises of a rifle range in Changkungtiahsia (張公堤下), Hankow. The shop measured 1,509 meters from east to west and 1,009 meters from north to south.
2. Since 5 May, 43 concrete buildings have been erected. The largest building, a four-story general office, was south of the central part of the repair shop. Two-story observation towers, 32 feet wide and 180 feet long, were in each of the building's four corners. The second floor of the towers projected over a dirt barrier.
3. The Kuo Ch'ung Chi (郭崇記), Tung I Kung (同義公), Ting Ming Chi (丁明紀) and Hsia Hung Tai (夏洪泰) supplied the soil, sand and rocks, and the Hsi I (西義) Cement Company, the cement. The Military Engineering Department of the Central and South China Military Area (CSCMA) constructed the buildings at a cost of one hundred billion Jen Lin Piao.
4. On 5 May, at a ground breaking ceremony, Pao Hsiang-fu (鮑祥福), director of the project, accompanied by Mo-ni-no-fu (莫尼諾夫), chief of the Soviet advisory group to the CSCMA Command Air Force, inspected the area.
5. The entire project is to be completed by the end of the year. One battalion of engineers and seven hundred civilian workers were employed in the construction.
6. The CSCMA Ordnance Factory, known also as the Central China Arsenal, was at Shihung (石洞), 2½ kilometers from Chihfang (114-18,30-2) and 12½ kilometers from Chink'ou. Branches of the Central China Arsenal were in Ch'ench'ei (110-07, 27-59) and Ch'angte (111-32,29-02). These arsenals were using tools removed from arsenals formerly at Chuchou (113-06, 27-53) and Hanyang.
7. The Central China Arsenal included a model works and a fuse works. TANG Ping-ou (楊平歐), director of the model works, was about 40 years old and had been in the USSR. This division, employing 30 technicians and 70 skilled workers, standardized light caliber arms. In July 1951 only models of rifle parts

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were being produced for experimental purposes.

8. JEN Chen-i (任振義). 40 years old, directed 20 technicians and 40 skilled workers, including ten watch makers, at the fuse works.
9. Seven Soviet advisers were employed at the Central China Arsenal.

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